

Translation

PATENT COOPERATION TREATY

PCT

INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY REPORT ON PATENTABILITY

(Chapter II of the Patent Cooperation Treaty)

(PCT Article 36 and Rule 70)

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| Applicant's or agent's file reference F1040087WO00 | FOR FURTHER ACTION See Form PCT/IPEA/416 | |
| International application No. PCT/JP2004/001657 | International filing date (day/month/year) 16.02.2004 | Priority date (day/month/year) 17.02.2003 |
| International Patent Classification (IPC) or national classification and IPC B62B 3/00 | | |
| Applicant SANYO ELECTRIC CO., LTD. | | |

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| 1. This report is the international preliminary examination report, established by this International Preliminary Examining Authority under Article 35 and transmitted to the applicant according to Article 36. | |
| 2. This REPORT consists of a total of <u>4</u> sheets, including this cover sheet. | |
| 3. This report is also accompanied by ANNEXES, comprising: a. <input type="checkbox"/> (sent to the applicant and to the International Bureau) a total of _____ sheets, as follows: <input type="checkbox"/> sheets of the description, claims and/or drawings which have been amended and are the basis for this report and/or sheets containing rectifications authorized by this Authority (see Rule 70.16 and Section 607 of the Administrative Instructions). <input type="checkbox"/> sheets which supersede earlier sheets, but which this Authority considers contain an amendment that goes beyond the disclosure in the international application as filed, as indicated in item 4 of Box No. I and the Supplemental Box. b. <input type="checkbox"/> (sent to the International Bureau only) a total of (indicate type and number of electronic carrier(s)) _____, containing a sequence listing and/or tables related thereto, in computer readable form only, as indicated in the Supplemental Box Relating to Sequence Listing (see Section 802 of the Administrative Instructions). | |
| 4. This report contains indications relating to the following items: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Box No. I Basis of the report <input type="checkbox"/> Box No. II Priority <input type="checkbox"/> Box No. III Non-establishment of opinion with regard to novelty, inventive step and industrial applicability <input type="checkbox"/> Box No. IV Lack of unity of invention <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Box No. V Reasoned statement under Article 35(2) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement <input type="checkbox"/> Box No. VI Certain documents cited <input type="checkbox"/> Box No. VII Certain defects in the international application <input type="checkbox"/> Box No. VIII Certain observations on the international application | |

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|---------------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| Date of submission of the demand | Date of completion of this report |
| Name and mailing address of the IPEA/ | Authorized officer |
| Facsimile No. | Telephone No. |

INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY REPORT ON PATENTABILITY

International application No.

PCT/JP2004/001657

Box No. I

Basis of the report

1. With regard to the **language**, this report is based on the international application in the language in which it was filed, unless otherwise indicated under this item.
- ☐ This report is based on translations from the original language into the following language _____, which is the language of a translation furnished for the purposes of:
- ☐ international search (Rule 12.3 and 23.1(b))
- ☐ publication of the international application (Rule 12.4)
- ☐ international preliminary examination (Rule 55.2 and/or 55.3)
2. With regard to the **elements** of the international application, this report is based on *(replacement sheets which have been furnished to the receiving Office in response to an invitation under Article 14 are referred to in this report as "originally filed" and are not annexed to this report)*:
- ☒ the international application as originally filed/furnished
- ☐ the description:
- pages _____ as originally filed/furnished
- pages* _____ received by this Authority on _____
- pages* _____ received by this Authority on _____
- ☐ the claims:
- nos. _____ as originally filed/furnished
- nos.* _____ as amended (together with any statement) under Article 19
- nos.* _____ received by this Authority on _____
- nos.* _____ received by this Authority on _____
- ☐ the drawings:
- sheets _____ as originally filed/furnished
- sheets* _____ received by this Authority on _____
- sheets* _____ received by this Authority on _____
- ☐ a sequence listing and/or any related table(s) – see Supplemental Box Relating to Sequence Listing.
3. ☐ The amendments have resulted in the cancellation of:
- ☐ the description, pages _____
- ☐ the claims, nos. _____
- ☐ the drawings, sheets/figs _____
- ☐ the sequence listing (*specify*): _____
- ☐ any table(s) related to sequence listing (*specify*): _____
4. ☐ This report has been established as if (some of) the amendments annexed to this report and listed below had not been made, since they have been considered to go beyond the disclosure as filed, as indicated in the Supplemental Box (Rule 70.2(c)).
- ☐ the description, pages _____
- ☐ the claims, nos. _____
- ☐ the drawings, sheets/figs _____
- ☐ the sequence listing (*specify*): _____
- ☐ any table(s) related to sequence listing (*specify*): _____

* If item 4 applies, some or all of those sheets may be marked "superseded."

INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY REPORT ON PATENTABILITY

International application No.

PCT/JP2004/001657

| Box No. V | Reasoned statement under Article 35(2) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement | | |
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| 1. Statement | | | |
| Novelty (N) | Claims | 10, 11 | YES |
| | Claims | 1-9 | NO |
| Inventive step (IS) | Claims | | YES |
| | Claims | 1-11 | NO |
| Industrial applicability (IA) | Claims | 1-11 | YES |
| | Claims | | NO |
| 2. Citations and explanations (Rule 70.7) | | | |
| Document 1: JP 11-5558 A (Shin Caterpillar Mitsubishi Ltd.), 12 January 1999 | | | |
| Document 2: JP 2747701 B2 (Suzuki Motor Corp.), 20 February 1998 | | | |
| Document 3: JP 8-142873 A (Aichi Corp.), 04 June 1996 | | | |
| Document 4: JP 2-41468 B2 (Kabushiki Kaisha Kito), 18 September 1990 | | | |
| Document 5: JP 11-318005 A (Suguru KUMAGAYA), 16 November 1999 | | | |
| <p>The inventions that are set forth in claims 1 to 9 are disclosed in document 1 (entire description and fig. 1 to 3), document 2 (entire description and fig. 1 to 4) and document 3 (entire description and fig. 1 to 8) cited in the international search report; therefore, the inventions in question lack novelty and do not involve an inventive step.</p> | | | |
| <p>Documents 1 to 3 all disclose the feature of controlling the object to be operated in response to the applied operating force that is applied to the operating unit.</p> | | | |
| <p>The invention that is set forth in claim 10 does not involve an inventive step in the light of documents 1</p> | | | |

Box No. V

Reasoned statement under Article 35(2) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability;
citations and explanations supporting such statement

to 4. It would be easy for a person skilled in the art to conceive of providing one of the force input operation devices that are taught in documents 1 to 3 to the carrier that is disclosed in document 4.

The invention that is set forth in claim 11 does not involve an inventive step in the light of documents 1 to 3 and document 5. It would be easy for a person skilled in the art to conceive of providing one of the force input operation devices that are taught in documents 1 to 3 to the wheeled vehicle for aiding perambulation which is disclosed in document 5.